

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Wednesday, June 21, 2006

Slaughter Secures \$16.25 Million for New York's 28th District

Federal Funding Will Support 14 Transportation Improvement, Economic Development, Medical Research, and Community Revitalization Initiatives

Washington, DC - Rep. Louise M. Slaughter (D-Fairport), Ranking Member of the House Rules Committee, is pleased to announce that she has secured \$16.25 million in federal funds for the 28th district. The funding will support initiatives in Rochester, Buffalo, Niagara, Penfield, and Lewiston.

"I am pleased to announce that we have just secured over 16 million dollars in federal funding for Western New York," Rep. Slaughter said. **"This funding will create jobs, improve our transportation infrastructure, enable community revitalization, and further medical research across the 28th district - and there's more to come."**

"It is important to remember that each dollar we bring home has a multiplier effect on our community," Rep. Slaughter continued. **"Each project that is funded, whether it is for research, transportation, aviation, medicine, or community revitalization is money getting pumped into the regional economy and helping Western New York create jobs and remain competitive."**

"That's why these projects and this money are so important for all Western New Yorkers."

[Click here](#) to listen to hear Rep. Slaughter talk about the more than \$16 million in federal funding she recently secured for 14 Western New York projects.

The funding was included as part of the FY07 Department of Defense appropriations bill, the FY07 Transportation-Treasury-HUD appropriations bill (both approved by the House, and pending Senate approval), and FY07 Labor-HHS Appropriations, which has been approved by House Committee.

A detailed description of the appropriations, as well as the local organizations and efforts they will support, is included below:

\$13 Million Secured in FY07 DOD Appropriations Bill

- **\$5 million for the Cancer Innovation Center at the University of Rochester** - The Cancer Innovation Center (CIC) will conduct innovative, interdisciplinary research aimed at improving the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of cancer. It will combine scientific areas of expertise from both the Medical Center and the University to provide a unique integrated collaboration to provide the best opportunity for finding novel treatments and cures for cancer. This will include research to understand the cellular and molecular basis of five of the most common cancers, including breast, prostate, lung and colon cancer as well as leukemia and lymphoma.

CIC will be part of the James Wilmot Cancer Center. In addition to this funding, Congresswoman Slaughter secured \$1 million for the Wilmot Cancer Center last year.

- **\$4 million for the Nanosystems Initiative at the University of Rochester** - New systems for energy and sensing can be created from breakthrough developments in nanotechnology. Building on historical strengths in optics and materials, UR is launching a new initiative that will have profound impact on the Rochester region. The Nanosystems Initiative will focus on optical biosensors and fuel cells. This Initiative will complement and add unique capabilities to one of the most promising industries in Western New York. A strong nanosystems facility and program at UR will be a powerful source of technology and commercialization for Rochester, and will help attract new start-up businesses to the area.

- **\$3 million for Fuel Cell Development at the Rochester Institute of Technology** -

Fuels cells are critical to future economic development in the Rochester region, and to the future of energy independence in this country. This funding will help take the Rochester Institute of Technology Fuel Cell Research Initiative to the next level. This project will address current challenges that are impeding widespread use of fuel cells. By expanding industry partnerships, the initiative is designed to accelerate the commercialization of fuel cell technology and address environmental impact and disposal.

- **\$1 million for Rochester General Hospital/MYOTECH for Development of Minimally Invasive Cardiac Assist Devices** - Rochester General Hospital (RGH) and MYOTECH, a Rochester based medical device company, will develop a program to bring a new generation of minimally invasive cardiac assist devices to patients. Existing cardiac assist devices are limited to patients of a few specialized health providers. RGH and MYOTECH are developing new technology, called MYO-VAD, which can easily and safely be used in virtually every hospital. The MYO-VAD can be installed by a general surgeon in three minutes or less. This device simply provides energy to the heart to keep it pumping. It does not contact circulating blood so complications associated with existing cardiac devices, including bleeding, clotting, stroke, and infection, are minimized. MYO-VAD has higher success rates with fewer complications than existing devices at one-third the cost of existing devices. This funding will be used to assist RGH and MYOTECH in final product development, manufacturing and training of health care providers in its use.

\$2.4 Million Secured in FY07 Transportation-Treasury-HUD Appropriations Bill

- **\$100,000 for the High Falls Film Festival, Rochester, NY** - The High Falls Film Festival is a strong and growing event that attracts audiences from across the United States and around

the world. The festival assists in the rejuvenation of downtown Rochester, NY by attracting tourists who patronize local small businesses. To continue to support and expand this critically needed economic revitalization, the festival needs to attract new audiences. This funding will be used for economic development planning that will promote, advertise, and expand the High Falls Film & Music Festival, as well as generate new tourism for the region.

- **\$900,000 million for the enhancement of the Fruit Belt Corridor, Buffalo, NY** - This project is part of a larger Fruit Belt Redevelopment Plan that is designed to spur economic growth in the Eastside of Buffalo. This funding will be used for roadway, streetscape, pedestrian access, and other infrastructure improvements necessary for the development of the Fruit Belt neighborhood. The project will include streets, sidewalks, curbs, street lights, and utility upgrades.

- **\$200,000 for the rehabilitation of the exterior of the GRUOP Ministries community services building, Buffalo, NY** - The building at 1323 - 1337 Jefferson Street was constructed in the early 1900s. It is structurally sound and presently houses GROUP Ministries, Inc., a multifaceted community-based organization that offers services to substance abusers and persons who are HIV positive or are at risk of contracting AIDS. The exterior of the building still retains its original features, which have deteriorated with time. The entire building has been a work in progress for the past few years, with most of the emphasis on the rehabilitation of the building's interior. This funding will be used to rehabilitate the exterior of the building, and will include the architectural design, replacement of doors and windows, and other improvements to the façade.

- **\$100,000 for the enhancement and improvement of public access to the Lewiston Landing Waterfront Park** - This project involves a continuation of the enhancement and improvement of public access to "Lewiston Landing" in the Village of Lewiston for water dependent recreational activities and general public use, as well as for economic stimulus of small businesses. This funding will be used for expanded and improved docking facilities,

increased parking, vista preservation, and landscape improvements.

- **\$100,000 for the construction and enhancement of Motts Lane, Penfield, NY** - Due to recent development in towns adjacent to Penfield, traffic has increased to 35,000 vehicles per day in this area, making it difficult and unsafe to enter and leave the driveways that serve businesses operating along Route 441. The area experiences numerous accidents and recently was listed as having the most dangerous roads in Monroe County. This funding will be used to increase vehicular and pedestrian safety in Penfield, NY by completing an extension of Motts Lane and realigning its intersection with Liberty Street.

- **\$1 million for ramp and safety improvements at the Greater Rochester International Airport** - The Greater Rochester International Airport serves as the gateway to economic growth and prosperity in Monroe County. This funding is for the North Ramp Pavement Project, where it will be used to repair buckling pavement, cracked retaining walls, and damage to the terminal building. The deteriorated pavement and retaining wall are a significant safety hazard to aircraft and workers. The retaining wall location also significantly impacts aircraft access to existing terminal gate parking positions. These airport improvements will lead to new flights, help drive economic development and create jobs in our region.

\$850,000 in Grants for

FY07 Labor-HHS Appropriations Projects

- **\$400,000 for Rochester Children's Zone, Rochester, NY** - This funding will be used to develop and implement the Rochester Children's Zone. This project will provide a comprehensive approach to improving pre K-12 curriculum, instruction, assessment, and student achievement. It will do this through the targeted delivery and coordination of integrated services that improve health, wellness, education, living conditions, and livelihoods of children and families in the Northeast section of the City.

- **\$100,000 for 1490 Enterprises Senior Center, Buffalo, NY** - This funding will enable 1490 Enterprises to promote the importance of physical activity and nutrition in improving the quality of life for local seniors. 1490 Enterprises' plans to initiate a program that combine fitness and instructional programs, such as aerobics and physical fitness classes, specifically tailored to the elderly population. The program will also provide nutrition services to promote healthy diets and reduce obesity among older residents in the community. This will not only reduce obesity, but will also reduce other negative health conditions currently impacting area seniors, including heart disease, cancer, diabetes, and malnutrition.

- **\$100,000 for the Arts Council in Buffalo and Erie County for arts-in-education programming** - The Arts Council in Buffalo & Erie County will use this funding to help 42 arts organizations in Erie County that have lost all of their public support from local government to sustain their arts-in-education programs. This project will assist all schools in Erie and Niagara County, grades K-12, public, private, parochial and charter to have arts programming in the classroom.
This project was also supported by Congressman Brian Higgins.

- **\$250,000 for the Niagara Falls Memorial Medical Center for technology upgrades and structural improvements in the Heart Center** - The Heart Center of Niagara will expand its non-invasive, medical management approach to the prevention and reversal of coronary artery disease to include PET/CT angiography, a cutting edge non-invasive technique

for early diagnosis. The Center is partnering with GE Healthcare and the leaders of Western New York's bioinformatics and life sciences community to develop and research innovative care paths that maximize patient safety while minimizing costs. This request will support one-time technology upgrades and structural improvements necessary for the success of this initiative. **This project was also supported by Congressman Tom Reynolds.**

###